

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending in the present application. With entry of this Amendment, Applicants cancels claims 1-23 without prejudice and adds new claims 24-38. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8, 11-18, 21 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kato (WO 99/59309). It is believed that the cancellation of the pending claims renders the rejection moot.

To expedite prosecution, Applicants note that independent claims 24 and 37 recite controlling the display of virtual connections *for each data type*. It is believed that Kato fails to disclose this recitation.

Applicants further note that independent claims 31 and 38 recite receiving connection state information from other nodes and alternating the connection state information stored in memory in accordance with the received connection state information. It is believed that Kato fails to disclose these recitations.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 24-38 are in condition for allowance.

If, for any reason, the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, Applicants request that the Examiner contact the undersigned attorney at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 892-5630 to discuss any steps necessary to place the application in condition for allowance.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing Docket No. 393032022300.

Dated: August 25, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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